



News Release

Medicine Bow-Routt National Forests &
Thunder Basin National Grassland
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Trail Construction Requires Hahns Peak Lake Levels to Drop

(Steamboat Springs, COL. - August 29, 2012) – Visitors to the Hahns Peak Lake Recreation Area should be aware that the lake is being partially drained to allow for construction projects at the day-use area.

The water level will drop approximately 10 feet to allow for construction of fishing piers and a fully-accessible, shoreline trail connecting the day-use area with the campground. Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) began slowly lowering the water level last week. The lower shoreline will affect boating access to the lake and will also require closure of the day-use area after Labor Day weekend. A portion of the campground will be closed, however the East Side Day Use area will remain open.

Construction will begin shortly after Labor Day and is scheduled for completion this fall. Upon completion, the day-use area will include both a picnic area and accessible fishing opportunities, as well as a shoreline trail.

Initially a three-year project, which included hazard tree removal and facilities renovations, the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) is now moving forward with finishing the day-use area. Managed by the Hahns Peak/Bears Ears (HPBE) Ranger District, the day-use area pairs with the campground on the lake shore to form the Hahns Peak Lake Recreation Area. The recreation area is located 30 miles north of Steamboat Springs in the Routt National Forest. The USFS is also in the last of three years of tree planting in the campground. The Hahns Peak Lake Campground was reopened in 2011.

The day-use area project is being funded from several sources: the Colorado Parks and Wildlife-Fishing is Fun program, Secure Rural Schools Title II funds, Trout Unlimited, U.S. Forest Service and local donors. Other partners helped contribute by donating man hours, including the Rocky Mountain Youth Corps and Smartwool.

This is the final piece in the Hahns Peak Lake renovations and is a short-term impact to area recreationists who will ultimately greatly benefit from the improvements.

For additional information call the HPBE Ranger District at 970-870-2299 or visit <http://fs.usda.gov/mbr>.

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